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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Lake Carlos State Park WPA/Rustic Style Group Camp  
other names/site number Lake Carlos State Park

2. Location

street & number off Minnesota Highway 29  not for publication N/A  
city, town Carlos Township Carlos  vicinity  
state Minnesota code MN county Douglas code 041 zip code 56319

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	<u>      </u> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:  
Minnesota State Park CCC/WPA/Rustic Style  
Historic Resources  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official Ian R. Stewart, Deputy State Historic Preservation Office Date 5/12/92

State or Federal agency and bureau Minnesota Historical Society

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register. Beth Boland 7/2/92  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register.  
 removed from the National Register.  
 other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**6. Function or Use**

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION/Outdoor Recreation

LANDSCAPE/State Park

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION/Outdoor Recreation

LANDSCAPE/State Park

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: NPS Rustic Architecture

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Wood

roof Asphalt

other Stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See Continuation Sheets

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
Recreation  
Government

Period of Significance

1941-1942

Significant Dates

1941

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

State of Minnesota  
National Park Service  
Works Progress Administration

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See Continuation Sheets

See continuation sheet

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Department of Natural Resources. Working Drawings and Specifications for Buildings at Lake Carlos State Park. Bureau of Engineering. St. Paul, Minnesota.  
State of Minnesota. Minnesota State Park, Parkway and Recreational Area Study. 1938.

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

### Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1 Acre

### UTM References

A 

1	5	3	1	8	2	2	0	5	0	9	5	6	2	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

B 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the Lake Carlos State Park WPA/Rustic Style Group Camp is shown as the heavy, cross-hatched line on the accompanying map entitled "Lake Carlos State Park." The boundary is defined by Lake Carlos to the southeast and the park road to the northwest.

See continuation sheet

### Boundary Justification

The boundary for the Group Camp includes the buildings that have been historically associated with the property and that maintain historic integrity. The boundary defines an area of the park developed by the Works Progress Administration.

See continuation sheet

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Rolf T. Anderson

organization N/A date April 16, 1992

street & number 212 West 36th Street telephone 612-824-7807

city or town Minneapolis state Minnesota zip code 55408

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1 Lake Carlos State Park WPA/Rustic Style Group Camp  
Carlos Township, Douglas County, MinnesotaDESCRIPTION

The Lake Carlos State Park WPA/Rustic Style Historic Group Camp consists of two buildings located along the northwest shore of Lake Carlos and just southeast of Hidden Lake. The buildings are located at the Hidden Lake Group Camp which is just to the south of the Lake Carlos State Park Historic District. The park is situated at the north end of Lake Carlos, east of the town of Carlos and north of Alexandria. The two nominated buildings were the only structures constructed at the group camp during the period of significance. However, the camp has been expanded during the modern era although the newer buildings have been excluded from the nominated property. Architects for the park buildings were from the Central Design Office of the National Park Service and the design office within the Division of State Parks.

Department of Natural Resources building identification numbers are placed after the name of each building.

1. Building: Mess Hall 1-293 Builder: WPA  
Architect: H. Petersen Date: 1941

The Mess Hall consists of a T-shaped gable roofed building containing a 60' x 20' dining room and a 20' x 21'6" extension for the kitchen. A massive split stone fireplace is located at the intersection of the T. The building rests on a concrete foundation with a series of 8" x 12" screened openings provided for ventilation. The building is covered with rough clapboards to the sill level with board and batten siding above.

Nine light casement windows are spaced along the facades of the dining room while six light casements are employed in the kitchen wing. Entrances are located on the north, south, and east facades of the dining room and the west wall of the kitchen. The interior features exposed, trussed rafters spaced 8' on center.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2 Lake Carlos State Park WPA/Rustic Style Group Camp  
Carlos Township, Douglas County, Minnesota

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2. Building: Crafts Building 1-291 Builder: WPA  
Architect: Nielsen Date: 1941

The Crafts and Recreation Building is a 48' x 24' rectangular structure with a gable roof which was originally covered with cedar shingles. The building rests on a concrete foundation with a series of 8" x 12" screened openings provided for ventilation. Rough horizontal siding rises to the sill level with board and batten siding above. Six light casement windows hinged at the bottom with steel transom chains are spaced along the facades. The building may be entered from central entrances on the north, east, and west facades while a massive split stone fireplace with a segmentally arched opening is located on the south facade.

The interior is divided into two spaces by a partition wall. The craft area occupies roughly one-third of the space while the recreation area occupies the remaining two-thirds. The exposed 2" x 8" rafters are placed 18" on center with 2" x 6" collars placed 3' on center.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1 Lake Carlos State Park WPA/Rustic Style Group Camp  
Carlos Township, Douglas County, Minnesota

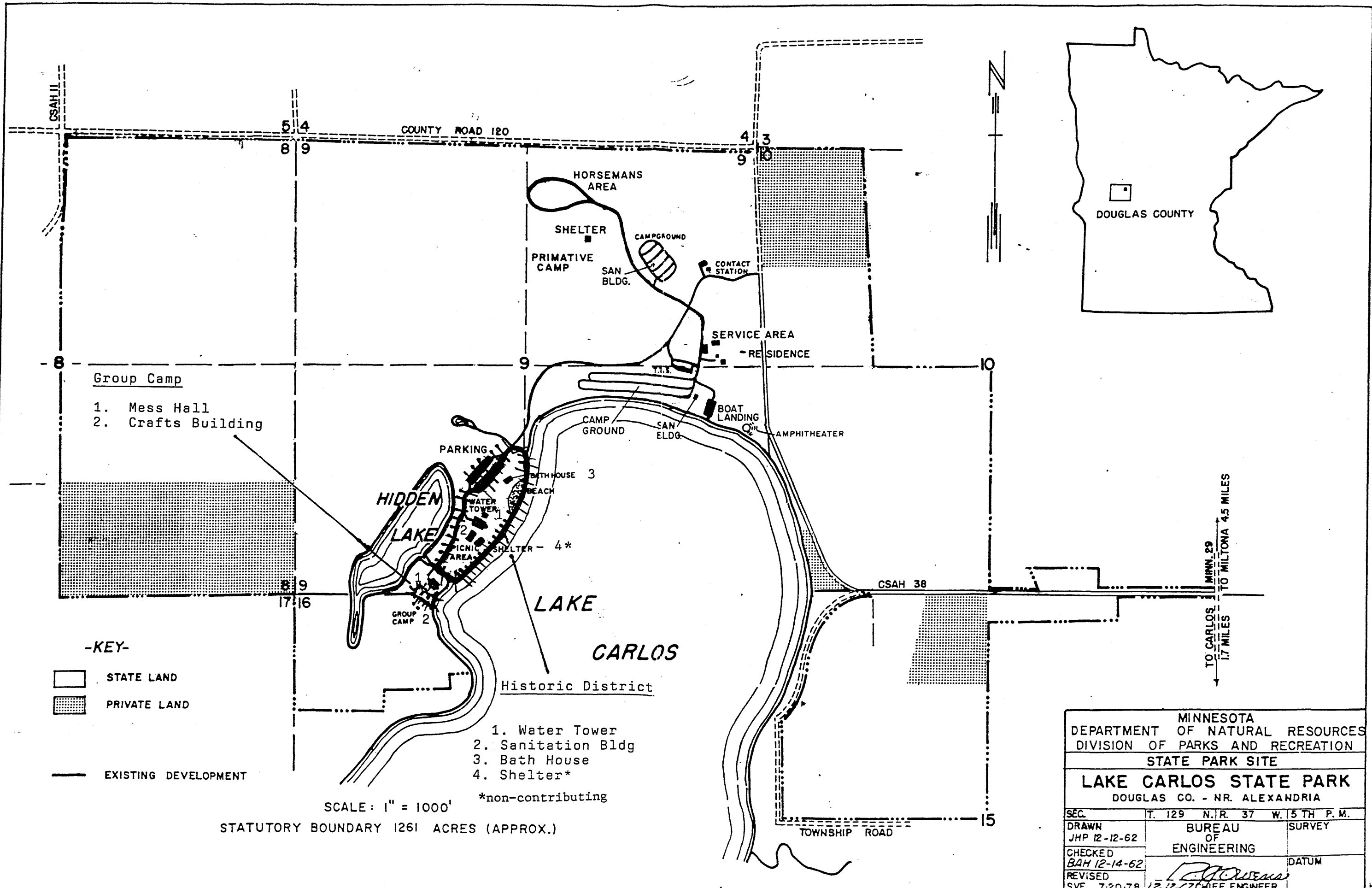
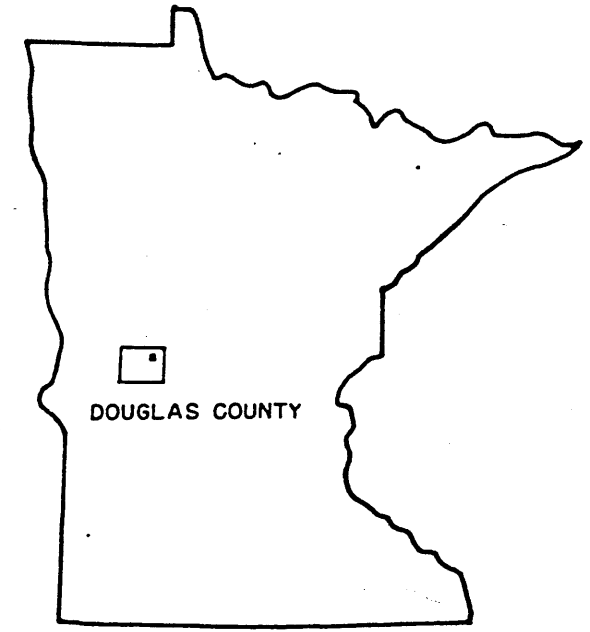
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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lake Carlos State Park WPA/Rustic Style Group Camp is historically significant for its association with the social, political, and economic impact of the Great Depression and the subsequent development of the various Federal Relief Programs such as the Works Progress Administration which was responsible for its construction. The group camp buildings are also historically significant for their association with the development of the Minnesota state park system. The park was considered an important link in the state park system by providing a recreational facility located in one of the state's summer resort centers in west central Minnesota. The park attracted a large local population as well as tourists coming from other states.

The Lake Carlos State Park WPA/Rustic Style Group Camp is architecturally significant as an example of Rustic Style construction featuring labor intensive methods and finely crafted detailing. These buildings are characterized by nonintrusive and environmentally sensitive designs based on National Park Service design philosophy and master planning. The Mess Hall and the Crafts Building represent two of only five group camp buildings constructed in the state park system which were located in parks other than the St. Croix Recreational Demonstration Area.

Lake Carlos State Park was established in 1938 with funds appropriated by the State Legislature in 1937. The park is one of fourteen established between 1937 and 1938.



**Group Camp**  
 1. Mess Hall  
 2. Crafts Building

**-KEY-**  
 [White Box] STATE LAND  
 [Dotted Box] PRIVATE LAND  
 [Solid Line] EXISTING DEVELOPMENT

1. Water Tower  
 2. Sanitation Bldg  
 3. Bath House  
 4. Shelter\*  
 \*non-contributing

SCALE: 1" = 1000'  
 STATUTORY BOUNDARY 1261 ACRES (APPROX.)

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION		
STATE PARK SITE		
LAKE CARLOS STATE PARK DOUGLAS CO. - NR. ALEXANDRIA		
SEC.	T. 129 N.1.R. 37	W. 5 TH P. M.
DRAWN JHP 12-12-62	BUREAU OF ENGINEERING	SURVEY
CHECKED BAH 12-14-62		DATUM
REVISED SVF 7-20-78	<i>[Signature]</i> CHIEF ENGINEER	